

28254

Douglas Sanders

Feb 20, 2019

Subject: Petition Against the Duke Energy Rate Increase

Dear Commissioners:

As a Duke Energy electric customer, I encourage you to closely examine the Duke Energy electric rate proposal (2018-319-e) when it comes before you. Specifically, I am concerned that:

Duke Energy's proposal to increase the basic facilities charge, a fixed cost from \$8.29 to over \$28. This would make this mandatory fee one of the highest in the country and much higher than the other investor-owned utility in South Carolina which recently lowered its fixed cost.

The increase in this mandatory fee takes away customer control over my energy bill robs me of the full benefit of energy conservation efforts. It is important that you protect older consumers who may live on a fixed income.

If Duke Energy would begin an effort to bury power lines thus mitigating storm interruptions I would be amenable to paying a reasonable proportion as a consumer, i.e. an added fee that reflects the true costs amortized over a period of years. However I see no need at current for a fixed fee increase that would burden consumers without adding value to services.

Sincerely,
Douglas Sanders

RECEIVED
MAR 05 2019
PSC SC
MAIL / DMS